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Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

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DEP Hosts Forum for Recycling Coordinators

On May 18, 1994, over 30 local and regional recycling coordinators attended a forum, at the DEP offices in Hartford, to discuss current issues affecting recycling. Representatives from both large cities and small towns were present. Some of the issues discussed included flow-control, the success of pay-per-bag programs, "put-or-pay" contracts with resource recovery facilities, and the possible addition of new materials to the list of mandatory recyclables. Everyone present enjoyed the opportunity to meet with other professionals in the recycling field to share information and to discuss various options and methods for improving recycling programs in our state.

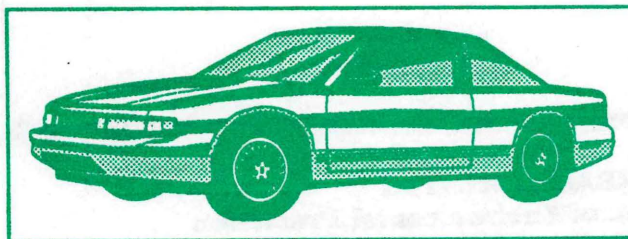
DEP's Recycling Bureau expects to continue to sponsor this type of forum in the future, probably on a biennial basis.

Videos on Grasscycling & Home Composting Available Locally

If you are considering starting a home compost pile or mulching grass clippings in place on your lawn, but need more information, visit the main branch of your local library or your area Blockbuster video store to borrow a copy of Connecticut DEP's videos, "Turning Your Spoils To Soil" and "Don't Trash Grass!". Local recycling coordinators may want to loan their copy of these videos to their local cable access station. If you would like to purchase your own copy of either of these videos, send a \$10.00 check or money order made out to CT DEP to: CT DEP Recycling Program, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127.

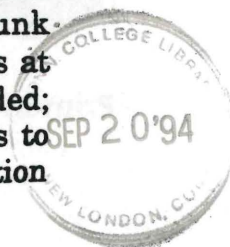
Filter Hotline Available for Government & Businesses

The Filter Hotline, a new service sponsored by the Filter Manufacturers Council, is now operational. This service is available to both corporate and government generators of used vehicular filters. The hotline can be reached by dialing (800) 99-FILTER (993-4583), Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Eastern time. Callers to the hotline will be given a summary of their state's regulatory requirements and information about companies that provide filter management services - transporters, processors, recyclers - in their state. In addition, each caller will be mailed a summary of the state regulatory requirements and a list of companies servicing their state.



CT DEP Recycling Office Conducts Survey

In May, the Recycling Office conducted a survey of local recycling coordinators in Connecticut's 169 cities and towns. A total of 25 surveys have been returned. Of the 25 towns responding to the survey, 15 have plans to expand their recycling programs. Many are collecting additional, non-mandated items in their curbside programs, such as; #2 HDPE plastic containers (7 communities), #1 PET plastic containers (6), junk mail (5), and magazines (4). Many other towns are collecting additional items at their drop-off center. The mix of items varied from town-to-town but included; plastics #1&2, textiles, antifreeze, junk mail and magazines. Major obstacles to program success were contamination, costs, market conditions, lack of cooperation from haulers, and lack of ability to do enforcement.



Midstate/Tunxis BRC Establishes Waste Exchange

The Midstate/Tunxis Business Recycling Council (BRC) has started a Waste Exchange Program. Its purpose is to bring together companies that have items that can be recycled. Not only will such a program help the environment, but it can also be a money saver. The company giving away waste items saves money by reducing its waste load. The company receiving the recyclable items saves money because it would otherwise have to purchase those items. Lists will be printed in newsletters of local Chambers of Commerce. If your company is looking for items or has items to give away, call Joyce Boncall at Inkwell, 666-8312.

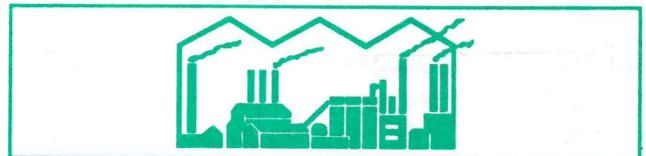


CBEC Launches Technical Assistance Program

The Connecticut Business Environmental Council, Inc. is a not for profit organization of business volunteers who provide technical assistance in recycling and solid waste management to Connecticut companies. The technical assistance program is managed by CBEC's governing board in conjunction with the organization's Technical Assistance Committee. This committee trains and supervises CBEC volunteers who assist companies with waste audits, hauler contract negotiations and the development of more cost effective waste minimization and source reduction programs. CBEC's Technical Assistance Committee serves as a "think tank", offering creative approaches to unique waste management problems.

CBEC provides each company requesting help with a preliminary assessment delineating the level of technical assistance required. CBEC volunteers review this plan with the company and develop an implementation plan and schedule. A plan for follow-up assessment is also developed. Companies wishing to take advantage of this service should call Peggy Brennan at 562-1976. Program implementation will begin after September 1, 1994. Local recycling coordinators are encouraged to promote the program with small businesses located within their municipality.

There is no fee for this service. However, it is hoped that companies receiving assistance will become active volunteer members of CBEC or make a contribution to the organization's technical assistance fund.



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